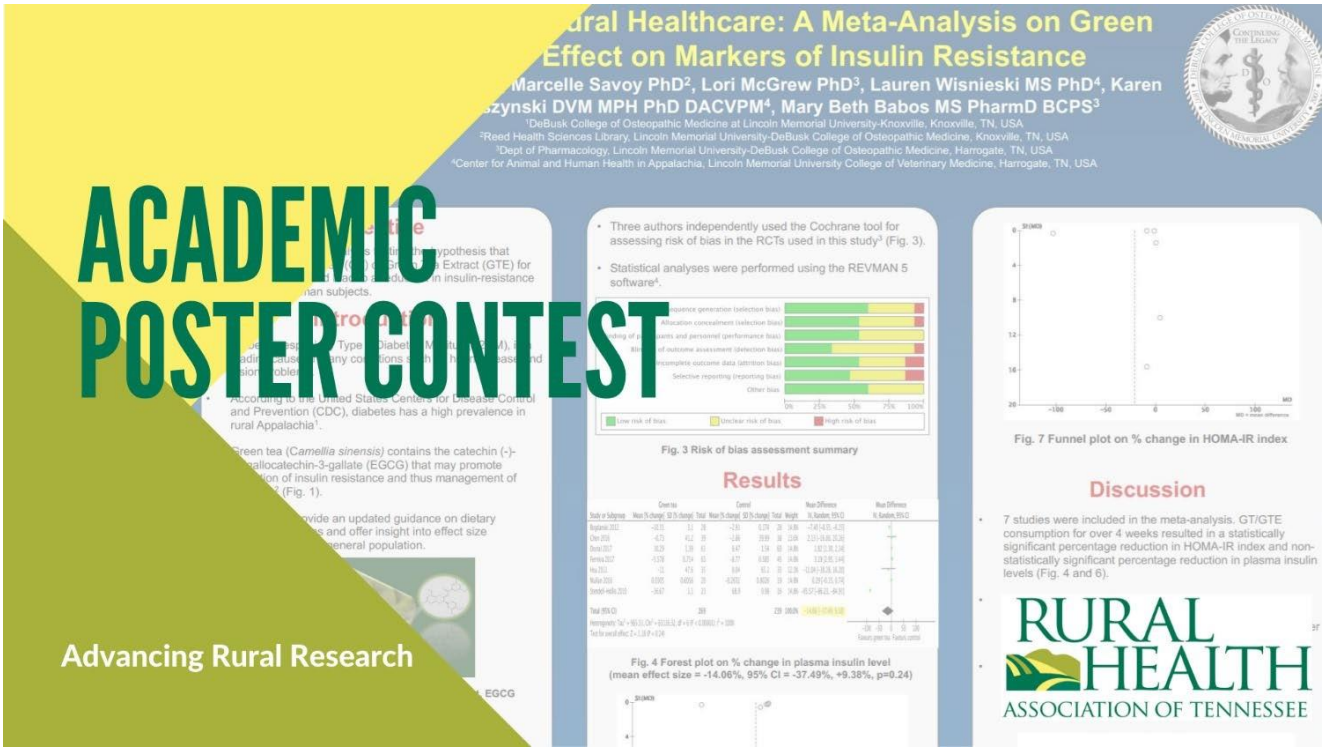
RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE



9th Annual Student, Resident, and Faculty Virtual Poster Competition Information

November 15–17, 2023

Rural Health Association of Tennessee

9th Annual Student, Resident, and Faculty Virtual Poster Competition Information

This virtual research poster competition is a low-cost way for students, residents, and faculty to share their research without the costs of producing a "hard-copy" poster.

Division winners and the overall winner will receive a gift certificate or modest cash award (check).

Submission Deadline: Monday, October 16, 2023 (No late entrants will be accepted).

Announcements of the winners, Thursday, November 16, 2023, at Annual Conference luncheon. You do not have to be present to win.

Evaluation and Judging

Submissions to the Virtual Poster Competition will be evaluated in two areas:

- Scientific Content (75%)
    - Introduction & background with pertinent literature cited (15 points)
    - Objectives clearly stated & concise (15 points)
    - Materials & methods (study design) clear & concise (15 points)
    - Results & discussion clear, concise & accurate (15 points)
    - Significance of results to field of study (15 points)
- Virtual Poster Display (25%)
    - Organization
        - Logical order, minimum redundancy (5 points)
        - Effective use of space; smooth transitions (5 points)
    - Text, Figures, and Tables
        - Legible with large fonts, color contract, no conflicting backgrounds (5 points)
        - Text with no grammatical errors; not excessively wordy (5 points)
        - Effective use of figures and/or tables, coordinated with text (5 points)

Numerical scores are proportioned accordingly. Each poster display is judged independently by three judges. Top candidates may be contacted to respond to questions by one or more judges.

In the event of a tie, the Competition Co-Chairs will use the submitted abstract as a tie-breaker. Abstracts will be judged according to how informative and well written it is and how well is correlates with the presentation.

A sample Virtual Poster Competition Scorecard is available for reference.

Divisions

The following four divisions will be judged separately from one another:

1. Undergraduate and Masters' Students
2. Doctoral and Professional Students (MD, DO, PA, NP, DMS, PhD, etc.)
3. Postdoctoral Trainees (Medical Residents, Fellows, etc.)
4. Faculty

Suggestions for Posters

Each poster must be created in Microsoft PowerPoint or PDF. A template is attached.

Poster design can significantly enhance or severely diminish the effectiveness of your presentation. The following guidelines are general considerations:

- Focus of attention: The focus of attention must be on the subject content. If the design overshadows the subject matter, the message is likely to be lost.
- Size and selection of visuals: Larger visuals attract more attention. Visuals not relevant to the content will distract the viewer.
- Density of visuals and text (labels): Too many visuals (pictures) and text (labels) in a small space decreases readers' attention, because each object is in competition with the others. Minimize these to prevent stimulus overload! Generally, a maximum length of 50-75 words per label results in a higher probability of people reading it.
- Ability to read text: Letters should be large so that they can easily be read from 2-3 feet away. Letters should be easily read (avoid Old English and other "fancy" fonts).
- Poster layout:
    - Use a consistent layout with heading and subheading font and size standardized;
    - Use bulleted lists to facilitate reading;
    - Relate the content of the text to the picture it describes;
    - Reduce competing stimuli—Avoid placing a large number of labels and visuals next to one another; and
    - Provide good contrast between the text and background (avoid white on white, blue on navy, etc.).

Application: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023VirtualPosterContest

TENNESSEE RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION Virtual Poster Presentation Evaluation

Division: (1)Undergrad/Masters (2)Doctoral/Professional (3)Post Doc/GME (4)Faculty **Judge:** _____

		Points	Poster#																	
Scientific Content (75%)	Content	15	Introduction & background w/ pertinent literature cited																	
		15	Objectives clearly stated & concise																	
		15	Materials & methods (study design) clear & concise																	
		15	Results & discussion clear, concise, and accurate																	
		15	Significance of results to field of study																	
Poster Display 25%	Organization	5	Logical order, minimum redundancy																	
		5	Effective use of space; smooth transitions between sections																	
	Text, figures, Tables	5	Legible w/ large fonts, color contrast, no conflicting backgrounds																	
		5	Text w/ no grammatical errors; not excessively wordy																	
		5	Effective use of figures and/or tables, coordinated w/ text																	

E = Excellent, VG = Very good, G = Good, F = Fair, NI = Needs improvement
10 pts: E=9-10, VG=7-8, G=5-6, F=3-4, and NI=2-1

TENNESSEE RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION Virtual Poster Presentation Evaluation

Division: (1)Undergrad/Masters (2)Doctoral/Professional (3)Post Doc/GME (4)Faculty **Judge:** _____

Poster#	Presenter	Comments

E = Excellent, VG = Very good, G = Good, F = Fair, NI = Needs improvement
10 pts: E=9-10, VG=7-8, G=5-6, F=3-4, and NI=2-1